

RURAL DISTRICT of BUCKINGHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

SURVEYOR

for the Year

1961



List of Parishes in the Council's Area

Addington	Marsh Gibbon
Adstock	Middle Claydon.
Akeley	Padbury.
Barton Hartshorne	Poundon
Beachampton	Preston Bissett
Biddlesden	Radclive-cum-Chackmore
Charndon	Shalstone
Chetwode	Steeple Claydon
Edgcott	Stowe
Foxcote	Thornborough
Hillesden	Thornton
Leckhampstead	Tingewick
Lillingstone Dayrell	Turweston
Lillingstone Lovell	Twyford
Luffield Abbey	Water Stratford
Maids Moreton	Westbury.

1961

BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of Council :

S. W. CHAPMAN, Esq.

General Purposes Committee

Chairman

G. J. BECKETT, Esq.

Members :

W. G. Beckett, Esq.

C. Bryant, Esq.

S. M. Cotton, Esq.

Mrs. M. S. Crook.

J. Davies, Esq.

W. Durrant, Esq.

W. E. Good, Esq.

A. Hodges, Esq.

P. J. Hodges, Esq.

S. W. Chapman, Esq. and G. J. Beckett, Esq.

ex-officio members.

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health :

D. H. WALDRON,

O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., Col. I.A.M.C. (Retd.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for Buckingham M.B., the Urban Districts of Bletchley, Linslade, Newport Pagnell and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Newport Pagnell and Wing, Area Medical Officer for North Bucks and Divisional School Medical Officer for the North Bucks Division and the Buckingham and Winslow District.)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

R. A. ATKINSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., from 1/8/61.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. C. SHARPE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector and Deputy :

K. E. RICHARDSON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Administrative Assistant :

C. H. BRAY.

Student Public Health Inspector :

T. J. AYRES.

BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL OFFICES,
SCHOOL LANE,
BUCKINGHAM.

15th June, 1962.

To the Chairman and Members of Buckingham Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1961.

There were 140 births during the year giving a Birth Rate of 16.5 per 1,000 population. This is one point below that for the rest of the Country.

The Death Rate shows a rise but is still below the rate for the rest of the Country. Of the total of 114 deaths, Heart Diseases and Cancer accounted for 67.

The Infantile Mortality Rate showed a sharp rise over the previous year. There were 8 deaths in this group, 7 of which were under the age of 4 weeks.

Apart from an outbreak of measles, which formed part of an epidemic throughout the Country, we were very free from the notifiable diseases.

I should like to record another year of happy co-operation with your Clerk, Mr. Floyd, your Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, Mr. Sharpe, and their staffs.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
DANIEL H. WALDRON.

SECTION A.

Vital Statistics

		1960	1961
Area (in acres)		54,543	54,543
Population		9,660	9,420
Number of Inhabited Houses ..		2,743	2,771
Rateable Value		£91,399	£97,180
Rate per £		20/2	20/8
Estimated Sum represented by a 1d. Rate		£337/17/6	£358/-/-
Births :			
Legitimate—Males		77	73
,, Females		68	64
Illegitimate—Males		1	—
,, Females		3	3
Birth rate per 1000 population		17.0	16.5
Do. (Bucks)		18.6	18.6
Do. (England & Wales)		17.1	17.4
Deaths—Males		48	68
,, Females		41	46
Death rate per 1,000 population		8.2	10.8
Do. (Bucks)		9.7	9.4
Do. (England & Wales)		11.5	12.0
Maternal Mortality Rate ..		Nil	Nil
Do. (England & Wales)		0.39	0.33
Infantile Mortality			
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :			
per 1,000 live births ..		13.4	57.1
Ditto for Bucks ..		19.8	18.1
Ditto for England & Wales		21.7	21.4
Still Births		2	1

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH :	1960			1961		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Tuberculosis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	12	4	16	6	7	13
Diabetes	0	3	3	1	1	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	6	9	15	9	7	16
Heart Disease	16	11	27	24	14	38
Other Circulatory Diseases...	1	3	4	2	2	4
Bronchitis	1	2	3	3	2	5
Pneumonia	1	1	2	7	2	9
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	1	1	0	0	0
Digestive Diseases	2	0	2	2	1	3
Nephritis	1	0	1	0	0	0
Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital Causes	1	0	1	2	1	3
Accidents	4	0	4	4	0	4
All other Causes	3	7	10	8	9	17
TOTALS	48	41	89	68	46	114
	—	—	—	—	—	—

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services

1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens for bacteriological investigation were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, as in previous years. Specimens, for qualitative and quantitative analysis had to be sent to London.

2. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

This service, administered by the County Health Department, is now radio controlled from Aylesbury, with a sub-station in Bletchley to cover the North Bucks Area. The service deals with all types of cases, general, accident and infectious disease.

3. NURSING FACILITIES.

The District Nurses in the Buckingham Rural Area carried out their duties in their usual conscientious manner.

4. CLINICS.

(a) *Child Welfare Centres.* There are five static Welfare Centres serving the District, located as follows :

Buckingham (twice monthly)	Twyford (once monthly)
Steeple Claydon (do.)	Winslow (twice monthly)
Thornborough (once monthly)	

The work of the Mobile Welfare Unit continued during the year and the following villages were visited :

Akeley.	Charndon.	Padbury.
Adstock.	Dadford.	Preston Bissett.
Beachampton.	Leckhampstead.	Thornton.
Calvert.	Lillingstone Dayrell.	Tingewick.
Chackmore.	Maids Moreton.	Westbury.

The District Nurse and Health Visitor attended each Session, and a Medical Officer attended once monthly. Immunization against Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Poliomyelitis and Tetanus, was carried out at all centres. During the year attendances by children totalled 3,052.

Once again I should like to pay tribute to the good work done at these Clinics by the members of the Ladies' Voluntary Committees.

(b) *Chest Clinic.*—The Clinic holds weekly sessions and is administered jointly by the Regional Hospital Board and the County Health Department. A chest physician attends each session. It is equipped with X-ray plant and is doing excellent work.

(c) *Orthopaedic Clinic.*—This clinic is organized by the Wingfield-Morris Hospital, Oxford. It holds two sessions a month at the Town Hall Buckingham, and an Orthopaedic surgeon attends alternate months.

5. HOSPITALS.

The following Hospitals served the area during the year :—

Buckingham Hospital.
Aylesbury Group.
Oxford Group.
Northampton Group.
Creaton Sanatorium.
Peppard Sanatorium.

6. DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This service, which for some time had been administered on behalf of the County Council by the Women's Voluntary Service, is now administered direct with two whole time Domestic Help Organizers covering the North Bucks Area.

During the year, 65 cases were assisted in the Buckingham area.

7. BACKWARD CHILDREN.

The County Medical Officer of Health has sent the following report :—

“ The training Centre at Thornborough Church Hall continued to function satisfactorily during the year.

“ Milk and mid-day meals were provided and children were conveyed from the surrounding area.

“ The number on the roll was 12.”

ANNUAL REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

The Bucks Water Board of which your Council is a constituent Authority, continued to supply every parish with water.

The Foscote Treatment Works has been in operation throughout the year in conjunction with the storage reservoir and the approximate daily gallonage supplied from these works during 1961 was 1,750,000, an increase of 250,000 gallons per day over the figure for 1960.

Average daily quantity of water supplied from the Foscote Treatment Works during the past five years :—

1957	1,335,000	gallons.
1958	1,370,000	"
1959	1,518,000	"
1960	1,500,000	"
1961	1,750,000	"

Continued experience in the use of the carbon treatment plant, which was installed and put into operation in April, 1960, shows that it is proving satisfactory for improving the taste of the water supplied from Foscote.

New Mains laid by the Board during the year :—

133 yards of 3" asbestos main in the parish of Tingewick.
1,600 yards of 4" asbestos main in the parish of Poundon
to provide a bulk supply to the Ploughley Rural
District Council.

Main Supply.

- (a) Quantity—Satisfactory.
- (b) Quality—Satisfactory.
- (c) Samples taken from the supply (which fell into Class I of the Ministry of Health's grading) 2
- (d) Estimated number of premises on supply ... 2588
- (e) Estimated number of population served ... 9250

Other Sources.

- (a) Samples taken 9
- (b) Samples found upon analysis to be unfit ... 7
(in these cases informal action was taken with the owners of the property concerned to provide a wholesome supply).

During the year 32 new dwellings and 8 existing dwellings (with no piped water supply) were connected to the Board's mains.

Summary of Results of Water Samples taken from other than Main Supply for Bacteriological Examination during the past Ten Years.

Year	No. of Samples taken and examined	Result	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
1952	4	2	2
1953	7	3	4
1954	12	4	8
1955	12	1	11
1956	4	3	1
1957	6	2	4
1958	13	5	8
1959	12	5	7
1960	16	8	8
1961	9	2	7
Totals	95	35	60
		63.15% unsatisfactory.	

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The streams and water courses in a number of the smaller villages are still polluted by drainage effluent and in dry weather a number of them consist almost entirely of sewage. Every effort is made with the small labour force available to keep them cleaned out. The sewerage and sewage disposal schemes installed in recent years have helped greatly to reduce the overall picture of pollution, but it will be many years before the district is completely rid of this nuisance.

3. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Twyford.

By the end of the year approximately 63% of the total estimated cost of this scheme had been completed. The whole of the sewers and pumping main had been laid and the construction of the disposal works, pumping and lifting stations, were progressing steadily. It is anticipated that the contract will be completed and house connections made to the new sewers and the works put into operation early in 1962.

Marsh Gibbon.

Nine tenders were received for the construction of a flood relief sewer in this parish and the tender submitted by Messrs. G. F. X. Hartigan Limited, in the sum of £8,592 14s. 6d. was accepted by the Council and approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The whole of the works was completed during the year. A considerable quantity of rock was encountered in one area where the sewers were approximately seven feet deep and although this caused the contractors some worry and delayed the work, nevertheless the contract was carried out expeditiously. As well as obviating flooding in Church Street, one small area of pollution was also remedied.

Charndon.

The Council's Consulting Engineers were instructed to prepare the final details of the scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for this parish, the scheme to take into account the London Brick Company's works at Calvert.

Maids Moreton

Early in the year the Buckingham Borough Council were advised that the Rural District Council were prepared to make a contribution towards the extension of the Borough Sewage Disposal Works in order that the sewage from Maids Moreton might be drained to that works. At a meeting held between representatives of both authorities, complete agreement was reached on the financial arrangements relating to the scheme. It is hoped that this matter, which has been long protracted, will resolve itself in the coming year in order that the Consulting Engineers can complete the final details of the scheme.

The following villages are now provided with modern sewage disposal works :—

Chackmore.	Completed in 1939.
Steeple Claydon.	Completed in 1939.
Tingewick.	Completed during the War by the War Department and taken over by the Council in 1949. Extended in 1956 by War Department.
Thornborough.	Completed in 1953.
Marsh Gibbon.	Completed in 1956.
Adstock and Padbury.	Completed in 1959.
Hillesden—Church End.	Completed in 1959.
The Hamlet.	Completed in 1960.
Water Stratford.	Completed in 1959.
Akeley.	Completed in 1960.

These works functioned satisfactorily throughout the year and good effluent standards were maintained. The maintenance staff carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner.

Following the approval of plans for the erection of six private enterprise houses in the village of Poundon, the Council discussed the question of a scheme for sewerage and sewage disposal in that village. It was decided, however, to defer this scheme until consideration is given to the schemes for the eight parishes covered by the Consulting Engineers' report of November, 1955.

The parishes concerned in this report are as follows :

Preston Bissett.	Beachampton
Westbury (New works required).	Edgcott.
Shalstone.	Dadford.
Turweston.	Lillingstone Lovell.

A scheme for the replacement of the existing over-loaded and obsolete sewage disposal plant serving 17 houses belonging to the Authority at South End, Leckhampstead, was completed during the year. The new plant has been designed to treat the sewage for an ultimate population of 105 persons.

4. WATER CLOSETS.

During the year 76 water closets have been installed by the owners of private properties as follows :—

New premises ...	19
Existing premises	57

All the houses owned by the Council, i.e. 299 pre-War and 427 post-War, are now provided with water closets.

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of household refuse once every three weeks was carried out throughout the district during the first quarter of the year. Delivery of a second Dennis Paxit refuse collecting vehicle was made in April and a driver/loader and two loaders engaged.

With both Paxit vehicles working fully on refuse collection, a revised schedule for the collection of

household refuse was drawn up for a trial period of six months.

This revised schedule was put into operation on 10th April and refuse was collected throughout the district once a week from 14 of the larger parishes and the remaining outlying parishes received a fortnightly collection.

During this trial period a time study of the scheme under the new schedule was carried out. The employees co-operated fully on this study and also made a number of helpful suggestions. As a result of this a new scheme of collection was implemented from the 2nd October whereby all parishes within the district received a weekly collection. Householders were advised of the need to place refuse bins on the roadside verges in a prominent position to await collection.

The schedule of collection in operation is as follows :—

<i>Evry Monday</i> —	Beachampton ; Calvert ; Charndon, Middle Claydon ; Thornborough and Thornton.
<i>Evry Tuesday</i> —	Addington ; Adstock ; Edgcott ; Padbury ; Steeple Claydon ; and Verney Junction.
<i>Every Wednesday</i> —	Barton Hartshorne ; Biddlesden ; Chetwode ; Hillesden ; Preston Bissett ; Shalstone ; Turweston and Westbury.
<i>Every Thursday</i> —	Chackmore ; Maids Moreton ; Marsh Gibbon ; Poundon ; Stowe and Twyford.
<i>Every Friday</i> —	Akeley ; Foscote ; Leckhampstead ; Lillingstone Dayrell ; Lillinstone Lovell ; Radclive ; Tingewick and Water Stratford.

No collection is made on Bank Holidays and refuse from the parishes so affected is collected the following week.

The new scheme provides for the weekly maintenance of the vehicles and regular tip control.

From its inception in October to the end of the year the scheme operated extremely well and the Council are to be congratulated on this achievement.

105 notices were served during the year under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, on the

owners and occupiers of premises, requiring them to provide a satisfactory dustbin. 37 bins were provided by the Council in default and an annual charge of 7/6d. made in respect of each dustbin provided.

Up to the 31st December, 1961, a total of 159 dustbins had been provided in default by the Council.

Towards the end of the year both Paxit vehicles were test weighed for a period of five days to give an indication of the amount of refuse collected. The weights of refuse collected in that period were as follows :—

No. 1 vehicle—17 tons 5 cwts. 0 qrs.

No. 2 vehicle—12 tons 18 cwts. 1 qr.

The new Paxit vehicle operated satisfactorily from the date of delivery to the end of the year. The older vehicle, however, had to have major repairs.

The Karrier Gamecock has given satisfactory service and was used for relief work on refuse collection, tip maintenance and for general sewerage and estate maintenance work.

A disused claypit at Calvert, owned by the London Brick Company Limited and rented by the Council, continued to be used for the disposal of all household refuse. This tip has now been in use since 1957 and will take many years to fill. Facilities were granted to persons residing in the district to deposit waste materials, etc., which, owing to their type and nature, the Council were under no obligation to collect.

The Council gave authority during 1960 for the purchase of a new Bristol Angledozer for use on tip maintenance and control. This machine was delivered in April and a new garage purchased and erected at the tip for housing the vehicle. It has proved a valuable asset and there is no doubt that with this type of machine, tip maintenance and control can be carried out in a proper manner.

Quantities of surplus and excavated materials and soil have been imported during the year for covering the

tip surface, and every effort is made to keep the tip in a presentable condition.

As in previous years regular inspections and treatment for rodents were carried out and the tip face was sprayed with insecticides at frequent intervals to keep fly nuisance to a minimum.

During the year the Council adopted a recommendation to undertake to provide litter baskets throughout the district where such receptacles are required.

The total income from the sale of waste paper and scrap iron during the year amounted to £97 17s. 8d.

The work of cleansing septic tanks and cesspools continued to be carried out by contract at four-monthly intervals and has been executed in a satisfactory manner.

6. SCHOOLS.

With the conversion of pail closets to w.cs. at Akeley Primary School, modern sanitation now exists in fourteen out of the sixteen village schools in the district.

The remaining two schools still in possession of the old bucket lavatories are situated at Padbury and Marsh Gibbon. Work, however, commenced during 1961 on the construction of a new primary school at Marsh Gibbon and new drainage was laid and connected to the public sewer.

It is hoped that the new school programmed for Padbury will be started during 1962.

7. SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no public swimming baths in the Rural District but rural residents in the summertime, as well as school children, used the open air one in the Borough of Buckingham.

8. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No infestation was reported during the year.

9. RODENT CONTROL.

Work during the year by the rodent operative has again been carried out satisfactorily.

Work of Inspection and Control.

(a) Number of Complaints received	...	...	227
(b) Number of Properties inspected and visits carried out	...	...	1787
(c) Number of properties found infested with rats	...	...	299
(d) Number of Properties found infested with mice	...	...	50

All sewers in the District were test baited during the year and only minor infestations were found and cleared.

The revenue derived from treatment of business premises during the year amounted to £151 7s. 0d.

10. GENERAL SURVEY OF WORK.

Improvement of Existing Council Houses.

By the end of the year hot water systems had been installed in 50 pre-War Council Houses with the aid of Standard Grants.

The Council decided to invite tenders for the installation of hot water systems in a further 25 houses and for the provision of bath, wash basin and internal w.c. in 12 houses without such facilities.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Since the inception of this Act in 1959 a total of 35 applications has been received for standard grant aid. The grant is payable in respect of the provision of specified standard amenities and on the actual expenditure incurred for this purpose. By the end of the year works had been completed in respect of 27 dwellings. Grants amounting to £1,708 0s. 0d. had been paid to owners in respect of 18 properties.

Up to the end of 1961 improvement works with the aid of discretionary improvement grants had been

completed in respect of 139 dwellings and 9 additional units provided by way of conversion.

Slaughterhouses

The licencees of the three licensed slaughterhouses within the district were advised of the Minister's approval of the report submitted by the Council under Section 3 of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, which fixed the appointed day as the 1st January, 1962, when all existing slaughterhouses within the district will have to conform to the construction regulations in order to qualify for a licence.

Towards the end of the year, a new private slaughterhouse was nearing completion at Marsh Gibbon and works were in progress at the slaughterhouse at Steeple Claydon.

The licensee of the remaining slaughterhouse at Twyford intimated that he did not intend to carry out the required works to his premises and that he would be making arrangements to have his animals slaughtered elsewhere.

The regulations are designed to secure the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions in connection with the construction and operation of slaughterhouses and the handling of meat therein and for the prevention of cruelty to animals awaiting slaughter.

Building Byelaws and Planning.

A total of 168 plans was deposited for byelaw approval during the year as against 181 deposited during 1960. 170 applications were made for planning consent of which 21 were refused.

The work of building and planning control continues to take up much of the department's time. It has become apparent that the existing inspectorial staff will not be able to cope much longer without extra assistance and the Council should consider the question of engaging an assistant in the department for this aspect of the work.

Maintenance Work.

The turnover rate of persons engaged in general maintenance, refuse collection, sewage disposal, drainage and ditch cleansing, was not quite so high as in previous years. No doubt, one of the reasons for this was the Council's decision to increase the hourly rate payable.

Maintenance work was carried out in a satisfactory manner despite the loss of 140 working days due to sickness.

I would like to record my thanks to your outside staff for the conscientious manner in which they have carried out their duties throughout the year.

NEW LEGISLATION.

The Public Health Act, 1961.

Certain provisions of this Act came into force on 2nd October, 1961. The provisions of Part II of the Act relating to Building Regulations come into force on such a date as the Minister may by Order appoint.

The Act amends the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to building byelaws, makes amendments to the law relating to Public Health and the functions of County Councils and other Local Authorities as are commonly made in local acts. It amends the law relating to trade effluents and classifies effluents from farms and premises used for scientific research as trade effluents.

Power is given in the Act to reject plans which are deposited for the erection of new houses if they do not shew that the dwelling will be provided with a bathroom and a suitable installation for the provision of hot and cold water to the bath.

The Housing Act 1961.

This Act came into force on 23rd November, 1961, and makes further arrangements for the giving of

financial assistance for the provision of housing accommodation, confers further powers on local authorities as regards houses let in lodgings or occupied by more than one family and houses or other buildings affected by Clearance Orders and Demolition Orders.

It amends Section 5 of the Rent Act, 1957, by allowing a greater increase in the permitted rent for improvements. The Act also alters circumstances in which improvement grants and standard grants may be made under Part II of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, and the Housing and House Purchase Act, 1959, and amends the law with respect to repairing obligations in short tenancies of dwelling houses.

Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1961.

This Act makes important changes in the law relating to the discharge of trade and sewage effluents to rivers. Its principle effect is to require the River Board's consent for all discharges existing before the commencement of the 1951 Act.

The Act provides, in effect, that after a date to be appointed by the Minister, it will be unlawful to make a discharge of trade or sewage effluent to a stream without making application for the River Board's consent.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the year the Department prepared a scheme for the construction of a centralised Depot. The scheme makes provision for workshop accommodation, for the storage of materials, and housing vehicles.

The site of the depot is on land in the Council's ownership which adjoins the junction of Bath Lane and Buckingham—Tingewick Road, Buckingham.

Builders and Contractors were invited to submit tenders for the works, but unfortunately only one was received, and in view of the lack of competitive tenders, the Council decided to readvertise the work at a later date.

A brief summary of other inspections and visits made during 1961 is appended below :—

Total number of visits to premises	...	...	3187
Complaints received	...	...	26
Informal Notices served	...	...	85
Statutory Notices served :			
Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936		105	
Section 9, Housing Act, 1957	...		1

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1948.

The table below shews the position during 1961, as far as work places and factories are concerned and the inspections made for purposes as to health and sanitation.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupier prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	4	20	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	35	2	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	22	55	2	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found :—

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pros- ecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanli- ness (S.1) ...	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) Inadequate ven- tilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drain- age of floors (S.6).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary con- veniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	I	I	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	I	I	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the act (not including offences relating to Outwork.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	6	6	Nil	Nil	Nil

Part VIII of The Act—Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)—Nil.

THE CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960.

Number of Site Licences issued	...	...	...	5
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	36
Nuisances found to exist	...	...	...	Nil

DRAINAGE.

Good progress has been made in this field of operations and during the year alterations and the relaying of defective drainage systems were carried out at 60 existing premises.

Twenty septic tanks, serving twenty-six dwellings, were constructed during the year.

Number of New drains examined	...	...	110
Number of visits for that purpose	...	...	212
Number of W.C.'s installed	...	...	76
Number of new soil and ventilating pipes installed	...	...	73

It is pleasing to note that with two exceptions, all the licensed premises in the district are provided with water borne sanitation and it is hoped that these two outstanding ones will be converted to the water carriage system in the near future.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928 AND 1936.

During the licensing year 1961, ten underground tanks were subjected to a pressure re-test. One of these tanks failed the test.

Number of Petroleum Licences, December 1961 :—

500 gallons or less	...	...	...	...	30
Over 500 gallons but not more than 1,000 gallons	...	...	...	...	8
Over 1,000 gallons	5
Total licences issued	43

Number of tests carried out	17
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Seven new tanks were installed and tested during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Enquiries in cases of infectious disease	...	...	5
Number of visits re disinfection	...	...	Nil

HOUSING AND BUILDING BYELAWS.

Number of Plans deposited for new houses	...	69
Number of Plans deposited for other works	...	144
Visits in connection with Building Byelaws	...	936

OTHER CLASSIFIED VISITS.

Housing visits under the Housing Acts	...	424
Housing visits under the Public Health Acts	...	23
Visits re water supply	...	50
Visits re drainage and sewerage	...	109
Visits re refuse collection	...	196
Visits re refuse disposal	...	75
Visits in connection with sewage disposal	...	294
Schools	...	7
General nuisances	...	19
Overcrowding	...	Nil
Visits to Shops and Licensed Premises	...	249
Visits to Canteens	...	3
Unclassified	...	19
Stables and Piggeries	...	37
Knackers Yards	...	Nil

SECTION D.

Housing

The total number of Council Houses erected Post War is now 427. The rate of progress during the year decreased slightly from that of the previous year. The figures for the last three years being 8, 11 and 4 respectively. By the end of the year four bungalows and 14 houses were under construction as compared with two bungalows the previous year.

Erection of Post War Council Houses up to December 1961

Parish	Houses	Bungalows	Total Completed	Under Construction
Adstock	16	—	16	—
Akeley	16	—	16	—
Beachampton	10	—	10	—
Biddlesden	4	—	4	—
Charndon	6	—	6	—
Chetwode	4	—	4	—
Edgcott	8	—	8	—
Hillesden	10	—	10	—
Leckhampstead	—	—	—	4
Lillingstone Lovell	4	—	4	—
Maids Moreton	15	—	15	—
Marsh Gibbon	28	2	30	—
Middle Claydon	4	—	4	—
Padbury	30	—	30	—
Poundon	3	—	3	—
Preston Bissett	17	2	19	—
Radcliffe-cum-Chackmore	4	—	4	—
Steeple Claydon	52	45	97	10
Stowe	2	—	2	—
Thornborough	22	—	22	—
Thornton	4	—	4	—
Tingewick	51	13	64	4
Turweston	6	—	6	—
Twyford	28	—	28	—
Water Stratford	—	4	4	—
Westbury	17	—	17	—
Total	361	66	427	18

Total number of houses erected and occupied during the year 1961	8
Total number of houses built and owned by the Authority	726
Pre-War—299. Post-War—427.	

Erection of Post War Houses by Private Enterprise up to December 1961

Parish	Houses	Bunga- lows	Total Com- pleted	Under Construc- tion	By Other Author- ties
Akeley	1	3	4	—	
Adstock	13	1	14	3	
Barton Hartshorne	—	1	1	—	
Beachampton	4	—	4	—	
Biddlesden	5	2	7	—	
Charndon	3	10	13	—	
Chetwode	—	1	1	—	
Edgcott	2	—	2	—	
Hillesden	2	1	3	—	
Leckhampstead	1	—	1	—	
Lillingstone Lovell	—	1	1	—	
Maids Moreton	5	5	10	1	
Marsh Gibbon	7	6	13	1	
Middle Claydon	2	—	2	—	
Padbury	7	2	9	1	
Poundon	—	—	—	2	
Preston Bissett	—	—	—	2	
Radclive-cum-Chackmore	5	1	6	—	
Shalstone	—	2	2	1	
Steeple Claydon	5	5	10	1	
Stowe	20	2	22	1	
Thornborough	4	5	9	1	
Thornton	—	2	2	—	
Tingewick	1	5	6	—	
Turweston	2	1	3	—	
Twyford	3	2	5	—	
Water Stratford	1	1	2	—	
Westbury	7	4	11	3	
Total	100	63	163	17	1

Total number of houses erected and occupied during the year 1961	24
Houses erected by other Authorities and occupied during 1961	2

The year has seen a marked increase in the number

of private enterprise houses erected. A total of 24 dwellings was completed and occupied during the year and at 31st December, 1961, 18 dwellings were in various stages of construction.

Prior to 1961 the greatest number of houses erected in any of the post-War years was 16 completed in 1950. (This figure includes 10 temporary bungalows erected by the London Brick Company Limited at Charndon).

The Council gave consideration to the adoption of a 14th Building Programme and agreed to the erection of twenty dwellings.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government subsequently advised the Council that approval would only be given to the erection of 14 houses.

The Council thereupon agreed to the following programme :—Charndon 6 dwellings.

Padbury	4	"
Twyford	4	"

A tender submitted by Messrs. Bridgwater Bros., Epsom, in the sum of £496 0s. 0d. for the construction of a waiting bay at Pound Lane, Preston Bissett, was approved and work executed during the year.

A revised tender for the construction of road and footpaths at Sandholme Estate, Steeple Claydon, in the sum of £5,784 16s. 4d., submitted by Messrs. A. H. Busby (Buckingham) Limited, was accepted by the Council and approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and work was well under way by the end of 1961.

Temporary Houses.

Following the Council's resolution in 1960 regarding the removal of the 20 Universal bungalows, further discussions on this subject took place during the year. The Council rescinded their previous resolution and decided to allow the temporary bungalows at Steeple Claydon and Tingewick to remain for a further period of five years and that the 20 dwellings under construction in the two parishes be used for general needs.

A summary of the action taken with regard to Slum Clearance is shewn in the following table :—

SLUM CLEARANCE — Five Year Programme

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN FROM OCTOBER 1955 TO 31ST DECEMBER 1961

Parish	Number of Unfit Houses in Slum Clearance Programme (Number of Premises)	Clearance Area Made (Number of Premises)	Demolition Order Made	Closing Order Made	Action Taken				Owned by Local Authority resolution to demolish	Informal Action	Action to be Taken — Remaining
					Undertaking not to re-let for human habitation	Undertaking to make fit for human habitation	Demolished	Deleted from Programme			
Adstock ...	8	8	1				8				
Barton Hartshorne ...	1	6									
Charndon ...	6										
Hillesden ...	4										
Maids Moreton ...	11	3	1				4				
Marsh Gibbon ...	6	6	1	2			3				
Padbury ...	8						2				
Preston Bissett ...	14						4				
Steeple Claydon ...	1										
Thornborough ...	9										
Tingewick ...	8										
Turweston ...	3										
Twyford ...	12	7	5	2							
Water Stratford ...	5										
TOTALS ...	96	13	36	4	10	8	48	4	7	2	5

NOTE.—* Action to be deferred during present tenant's lifetime.

† Rendered fit.

Other Dwellings not included in the Slum Clearance Programme but dealt with during 1961.

Tingewick ... 1 cottage, Closing Order.
 Leckhampstead 1 cottage, Undertaking not to relet for human habitation.
 Marsh Gibbon 1 cottage, Demolition Order.
 Tingewick ... 1 cottage, Demolition Order (Previously dealt with in 1960 when owner gave undertaking to render fit but found to be uneconomical due to high cost of repair works).
 Maids Moreton 1 cottage, Notice served under Section 9, Housing Act, 1957, to execute repairs to render premises fit for habitation.

Houses included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister Pre-War but not yet demolished.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Houses</i>	<i>No. still occupied</i>	<i>No. of persons in occupation</i>
Akeley ...	4	Nil	Nil
Stowe ...	7	6	14

It will be seen from this summary that action has been taken in respect of 82 properties out of the total of 96 included in the five-year programme. Of the remaining 14 properties, 5 at Maids Moreton and 2 at Turweston have been represented and action deferred.

Action in respect of 2 houses at Marsh Gibbon has been deferred during the present tenants' lifetime.

It is anticipated that the outstanding 5 houses will be dealt with during the early part of 1962.

With this five year programme nearing completion the Council decided to give further consideration to those premises on the deferred list. By the end of the year these properties were being re-inspected together with additional properties considered to be in a state as to be unfit for habitation.

Formal representation in respect of 6 properties at Charndon was made during February and these were declared to be a Clearance Area within the meaning of the Housing Act, 1957, and the statutory order, map and documents submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for confirmation.

The Minister received objections from two owners in respect of three of the dwellings included in the Area and gave notice to the Council that a Public Hearing would be held in November to hear these objections.

One objection in respect of two dwellings was subsequently withdrawn. Detailed reports and evidence were prepared and presented by the Council at the Hearing, and towards the end of 1961, the Minister's confirmation of the Order was received.

During the year the remaining occupied house at Chapel End, Akeley, was vacated and the known owners of two of the cottages were requested to demolish them and this was subsequently carried out. The Council decided to invite tenders for the demolition of the remaining 4 houses and for the clearance of the site.

Of the 7 houses in the two areas at Stowe, the Council offered accommodation to 4 tenants who were occupying 5 of these properties and it is anticipated that the remaining two houses will be vacated during the coming year and steps taken to secure the demolition and clearance of both areas.

General.

It was hoped that with the passing of the Housing Act, 1961, a higher standard of fitness for houses would have been introduced, but this was not so.

In recent years the number of owner/occupied houses has substantially increased and there has been a corresponding reduction in the number of private landlords.

It remains to be seen whether this trend will be reversed now that the new Act permits landlords to increase rents by $12\frac{1}{2}\%$ per annum when carrying out improvement works.

INSPECTION AND ACTION DURING THE YEAR.

Number of Houses found to be in a state unfit for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Number of Houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed to render the premises fit for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed that the premises owned would not be re-let for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Demolition order was made	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Closing Order was made	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which action was deferred	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Clearance Order was made	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

OVERCROWDING.

No cases of overcrowding were investigated during the year.

THE HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959.

Discretionary Improvement Grants.—Nine applications for grants in respect of 12 premises were made, all of which received approval and the maximum grant of fifty per cent. was recommended in each case.

The total grant aid approved during the year amounted to £3,891 0s. 0d., an average of £324 5s. 0d. per house.

Applications made during 1961

Parish	No. of Dwellings to be improved	Additional Units to be provided by conversion
Barton Hartshorne	I	—
Beachampton	I	—
Charndon	2	—
Edgcott	I	—
Lillingstone Dayrell	2	—
Marsh Gibbon	3	—
Padbury	I	—
Twyford	I	—
Total	12	Nil

Up to the 31st December 1961, improvement works have been completed in respect of 139 properties and 9 additional units have been provided by way of conversion.

Number of properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council during 1961 ...	12
Amount of grant aid approved by the Council during 1961 £3,891	0. 0.
Total number of properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council to 31st December 1961	167
Total amount of grant aid approved by the Council to 31st December, 1961 £50,971	18. 3.

Standard Improvement Grants.

Applications approved during 1961

Premises	No. of Premises involved	Standard amenities to be provided				
		W.C.	Wash Basin	Bath in Bath-room	Hot Water supply	Food Store
Adstock ...	2	1	2	2	2	2
Beachampton ...	1	1	—	—	—	1
Maids Moreton ...	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tingewick ...	4	3	4	4	4	3
Twyford ...	1	—	—	—	1	—
Totals ...	9	6	7	7	8	7

Up to 31st December, 1961, works for the provision of standard amenities have been completed in respect of 27 properties.

Amount of grant aid approved by the Council during 1961 (maximum) :—£1,120 os. od.

Total number of properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council to 31st December, 1961 :—35.

Total amount of grant aid approved by the Council to 31st December, 1961 (Maximum) : £3,905 os. od.

Actual amount of grant paid by the Council to 31st December, 1961 :—£1,708 os. od. in respect of 18 properties.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK.

It is pleasing to note that no report was received regarding the existence of tuberculosis or brucella abortus in dairy herds.

Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

Number of Dairies registered	...	...	...	I
Inspections	...	...	...	2

All dealer's licences, other than those issued by the Ministry are now issued by the County Council, as the Food and Drugs Authority.

ICE CREAM.

Total number of retailers on register	...	...	48
New applications received and Premises registered			4
Inspections	...	...	9

Samples of ice cream have been taken from premises serving ice cream to the public. These samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, for bacteriological examination by the methylene blue reduction test and were graded as follows :—

Provisional Grade I	...	...	...	...	4
Do. II	...	...	...	...	Nil
Do. III	...	...	...	...	Nil
Do. IV	...	...	...	...	Nil

This test affords a simple means for the grading of the bacteriological cleanliness of ice cream.

MEAT AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

During the year, a total of 1,543 animals was slaughtered for meat in the three licensed private slaughterhouses in the district and I am pleased to

state that once again 100% inspection of the meat after slaughter was carried out. The percentage increase of animals killed over the year 1960 was 13.4. This was mainly due to the increase in the number of sheep and lambs slaughtered, there being a decrease of 9% in the figures for 1960 in the number of adult cattle slaughtered.

It is with every satisfaction that I have to report for the third year in succession that no cases of tuberculosis were found in adult cattle slaughtered during the year. The eradication of bovine tuberculosis by the attested herd scheme and latterly by attested areas will benefit both public health and also farming economy.

There was only one case of localised cysticercosis as compared with 3 cases the previous year.

Out of the total of 260 pigs slaughtered, 7 were found to be affected with localized tuberculosis on post mortem examination ; a decreased of 0.97 for the figure for 1960.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in
whole or part :

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed ...	110	1	2	1170	260	—
Number inspected	110	1	2	1170	260	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</i>						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	43	1	—	53	21	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	39.09	100	—	4.62	8.08	—
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	7	—
Percentage of the inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	2.69	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and tot- ally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Parts or Organs condemned are classified as follows :

	<i>Veal</i>	<i>Beef</i>	<i>Pork</i>	<i>Mutton</i>	<i>Total</i>
Whole Carcase ...	—	—	—	1	1
Plucks ...	—	—	1	1	2
Livers ...	—	44	8	45	97
Heads and Tongues	—	2	3	—	5
Hearts ...	—	—	5	2	7
Lungs ...	—	6	6	6	18
Part carcase ...	—	—	—	2	2
Miscellaneous ...	—	1	6	—	7

Approximate total weight 6 cwts. 0 qrs. 7½ lbs.

Number of licensed slaughterhouses	...	...	3
Visits to slaughterhouses ...	...	...	203
Visits to Butchers' shops ...	...	...	202
Number of licensed slaughtermen	...	...	10

FOOD PREMISES.

The premises coming within the purview of the Regulations are summarised as follows :—

School Canteens ...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Private School Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	5
Factory Canteens ...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hospital Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	2
Licensed Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	4
Licensed Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	38
Mobile Fish and Chip Vans	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shops—General Stores	...	...	...	...	...	37
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	...	...	116

A total of 281 visits and inspections was carried out at these premises during the year.

The standard of hygiene and cleanliness in the majority of the premises is reasonably good. There is no doubt that the public generally are becoming more hygiene conscious and the small trader, who

does little or nothing to attract the customer is finding it difficult to make a living.

In order to meet the growing competition and keep abreast with the changing habits of the public, the small village stores, in the main, now keep and retail all types of frozen foods.

Food Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act 1955 are classified as follows :—

Ice Cream (registered for the storage and sale) ...	48
Mobile Vans (for frying of fish and chips) ...	1
Manufacture of Sausages	7

KNACKERS YARDS.

There are no licensed Knackers Yards in the District.

OTHER FOODS.

No other food was condemned during the year.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD.

All butcher's meat and other foods condemned as unfit are disposed of by burial under the control of the Department.

FOOD POISONING.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

BAKEHOUSES.

Number on register	1
Number of visits	3
Contravention of Regulations	2

JOHN C. SHARPE.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control Over, Infectious and Other Diseases

GENERAL.

In the first half of the year we had an epidemic of measles. This was part of a general epidemic throughout the Country, 120 cases were notified.

NOTIFICATIONS

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Measles ...	50	70	120
Scarlet Fever ...	1	—	1
Dysentery ...	1	—	1
Total ...	52	70	122

CANCER.

There were 13 deaths during the year, three fewer than in 1960. Two cases were cancer of the lung.

TUBERCULOSIS.

One case was notified during the year and it is satisfactory to report that again there have been no deaths.

DANIEL H. WALDRON,

Medical Officer of Health.

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